



BONANZA AIRLINES

Douglas DC-3

Originally founded as a charter operator, Bonanza began scheduled service in December 1949. Based at Las Vegas, Nevada, it served points in the Southwestern United States with a fleet of DC-3's. In 1959, modern prop-jet aircraft were placed into service, and the last of the airline's DC-3's was retired by the end of 1960. Bonanza then claimed the title of "The First All Jet-Powered Airline in America." The carrier merged with Pacific Air Lines and West Coast Airlines in 1968 to form Air West. In 1970, following the acquisition of the controlling interest in the company by Howard Hughes, the airline's name was changed to Hughes Airwest.

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